

# The Polynesian.

Vol. 5.

HONOLULU, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1848.

No. 17.

## THE POLYNESIAN.

The Official Journal of the Hawaiian Government, published weekly at Honolulu, Oahu, H. I.

CHARLES E. HITCHCOCK, EDITOR.

TERMS.

One copy per annum, in advance, \$6.00. Single copies, 10 cts.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

Advertisements, 10 cts. per line, first insertion; 5 cts. per line, subsequent insertions.

## BUSINESS CARDS.

POLYNESIAN PRINTING OFFICE.

Plain and Fancy Book and Job Printing

—RECEIVED—

Pamphlets, Catalogues, Circulars, Handbills, Bill Heads, VISITING, BUSINESS AND ADDRESS CARDS

Executed with neatness and dispatch, on liberal terms.

S. H. WILLIAMS & CO., Importers & Commission Merchants, HONOLULU, OAHU.

S. H. WILLIAMS, J. F. MARSHALL, Wm. BAKER, JR., B. F. SNOO.

S. H. W. & Co. import Sheathing Copper, Corrugated, Canvas, Provisions, Bread, Naval Stores, &c., and deal in every variety of Ship Chandlery and Recruits for wharves.

\* Bills of Exchange on the United States and Europe warranted.

EVERETT & CO., General Commission Merchants, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

A. P. EVERETT, J. J. JARVIS, J. J. JARVIS.

Money advanced on favorable terms for Bills of Exchange on the United States, England and France.

MAKER, ANTHON & CO., Commission Merchants & Ship Chandlery, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

JAMES MAKER, J. A. ANTHON, CHAS. BREWER, JR., HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Ships supplied with Refreshments, Provisions, &c., at the shortest notice, on reasonable terms.

N. B. - Wanted government or whalers bills on the U. S. or Europe, for which money will be advanced on favorable terms.

SAMSON & CO., Bakers and Dealers in China Goods, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

On hand and for sale, Sugar, Molasses, Tea and Coffee. Families and Ships supplied with Bread, &c.

J. WYDLER, SIGN AND ORNAMENTAL PAINTER, HONOLULU, OAHU.

Transparent Window Shades and Ornamental Painting. Executed with neatness and dispatch. (Orders to be left at the Store of Mr. C. S. Bartow.)

C. W. VINCENT, HOUSE CARPENTER AND JOINER, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

Building and Joining executed at short notice on the most reasonable terms.

ISRAEL H. WRIGHT, PAINTER, GILDER AND GLAZIER, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

Will execute with neatness and dispatch, House, Sign, Coach, Ship and Ornamental Painting.

NICHOLSON & HENDERSON, STATIONERS & PRINTER, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

(Establishment opposite the Seamen's Chapel.)

A large assortment of Brochures, Cassiniers, Vestings, Cashmires and Linen Drillings, constantly for sale. Garments made at short notice, in latest fashion.

JOHN J. CARANAVE, IMPORTER OF EUROPEAN GOODS, AND DEALER IN Ship Chandlery and General Merchandise, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

[At the store formerly occupied by E. & C. H. Grimes.]

BUSH, MAKEE & CO., DEALERS IN Ship Chandlery and General Merchandise, LAHAINA, MAUI.

Ships supplied with recruits at the lowest market prices. Money advanced on reasonable terms for Bills of Exchange on the United States and Europe.

F. RODRIGUEZ VIDA, SHIP CHANDLERY AND PROVISIONS, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

Ships supplied with recruits at the lowest market price for Cash or Bills on the United States or Europe.

ISAAC MONTGOMERY, DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

Ships supplied with Stock at the shortest notice.

O. F. LAFRENZ & CO., COMMISSION MERCHANTS, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

C. F. LAFRENZ, C. H. LAFRENZ, French Polishing executed in the best manner.

A. B. BATES, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Office in the Honolulu House, opposite John R. Jasper, Esq., HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

O. S. BARTOW, DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

AUSTIN & BAGLE, DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

WOOD & PARKE, CABINET MAKERS AND UPHOLSTERERS, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

F. W. THOMPSON, DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

ZENAS BENT & CO., HOUSE CARPENTERS AND JOINERS, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

JAMES BENT, GEO. PATTERSON, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

KELLY & GOULD, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Wm. H. KELLY, TAHITI, Soc. Is.

WARD & SMITH, General Commission Merchants for the Coast of California, FRANK WARD, W. M. SMITH, SAN FRANCISCO.

D. P. PENHALL, DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

(On the Quay, next to Market Wharf.)

J. MADISON STEELE, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, LAHAINA, MAUI, H. I.

(Office in the Police Court, Hale Pili.)

J. W. H. KAUWAI, Attorney at Law and Solicitor, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

(Office in the Honolulu House.)

NEALAHINE, BARBER AND HAIR DRESSER, HONOLULU, OAHU, H. I.

(Shop next door to the Canton Hotel.)

## THE POLYNESIAN.

At the request of an intelligent correspondent, we publish the following article upon the evils arising from the moderate use of intoxicating drinks, read by B. Parsons, before the World's Temperance Convention, held in London, August, 1846.

EVILS OF MODERATE DRINKING.

Hitherto the operations of many of the friends of temperance have been especially directed to the reformation and salvation of immoderate drinkers, and to accomplish this noble object, facts, deduced from the physical, social, mental and moral statistics of drunkenness, have been laid before the public in large profusion. We have submitted the body of the drunkard to medical scrutiny—have registered his diseases, and have calculated the annual mortality arising therefrom. We have entered his house, and taken an inventory of his furniture and clothing; we have in vivid colors portrayed the woes of his wife, and the sorrows of his children; we have traced the subtle influence of alcohol on his mental and moral powers; we have seen the immortal spirit poisoned by this material demon, and as a consequence, reason dethroned and passion inflamed, and by the light of revelation we have followed this unhappy victim to the bar of the Eternal, and the abodes of perpetual darkness. With these mournful, solemn, direful facts, we have caused the land to resound on either side of the Atlantic. Here American and British hearts have raved with each other in sympathy, in benevolence, in zeal, and the Convention of this day, composed as it is of philanthropists of so many countries, climes and religious denominations, demonstrates that we have not labored in vain.

But while so much attention has been bestowed on the woes attendant on drunkenness, we fear there is another and much larger class of evils inevitably connected with the drinking of alcoholic beverages, which have to some extent been passed over. The history of moderate drinkers, as they term themselves, and wish to be termed by others, unfolds to us a very dark and melancholy page, which we cannot neglect without being chargeable with the guilt of refusing to undertake one of the most important branches of our philanthropic enterprise.

Every person knows that the term moderation is one of the most ambiguous and un-definable words in our language. Under its protection not a small number of moderate drinkers take refuge; for moderation is said to range from a glass to three bottles, and from a pint to a gallon. A gentleman who has long since signed our pledge, assured me that he never was intoxicated in his life, and yet on public occasions, he never took less than three bottles of wine, besides a proportion of brandy and water! I have seen ladies drink, during the period of nursing, three or four glasses of spirits and water, besides beer and wine, and yet never betray the least symptom of inebriation; and it is well known that many laborers will consume from two to three gallons of beer or cider per day. And not only have we here an asylum for tipplers, but if the subject be duly investigated, we have also a tale of disease, misery, crime and death, which cannot be surpassed by any of the woeful revelations of drunkenness; and finally, it is from this class that we see annually emerging a race of drunkards, more than equal to the number of those whom total abstinence has reclaimed. It is therefore next to impossible that the cause of true temperance should succeed, so long as moderation is allowed to spread its net, and, by its insidious or open opposition, to impede our movements. For it cannot be concealed, indeed, concealment is rarely sought, and therefore the statement can give offence to no one, that our most accomplished, most determined, and most successful antagonists are to be found, not in the haunts of the drunkard, but in the ranks of moderation.

It is now universally allowed that alcohol is a poison; and, consequently, every liquor containing that ingredient, in whatever degree must be proportionally poisonous. Now every one knows that a poison is that which not only cannot support life but which, whenever taken into the body, wages war with its healthy functions. Alcohol is allowed to be the most subtle of all poisons. It is lighter and thinner than water, and, therefore, as soon as it enters the stomach, is taken up by the absorbents, and circulates throughout the whole frame. It has been found in the blood and the brain, and doubtless, to the latter circumstance, may be traced its influence in exhilarating the spirits, dethroning reason, and inflaming the passions. It is well known that if there be a sore, or a wound on any part of the body, this fiery visitant invariably seeks it out, increases its inflammation, and impedes the curative efforts of nature or of art.

Of course, in judging of a question like this, we must take into consideration the constitution of the individual, and the quantity he drinks. Some persons may, from the natural vigor of their frames, be able for a much longer period than others to take these poisons without the injury becoming apparent. And further, a thousand safety valves have been provided by the benevolence of our Creator, to save us from the ill which our own folly would inflict on ourselves, and hence the beneficial influence of a poison may for awhile be resisted or counteracted. But though nature, like the Eternal himself, may bear long, she will not bear always, and, therefore, without a miracle, which no one under such circumstances has any right to expect, no drinker of alcoholic drink can possibly live out all his days. The process of destruction may be slower in one person than another. The natural vigor of the frame, and the quantity drunk, may modify the effect, and prolong or shorten the crisis, but the catastrophe is certain; for science and history have now written, as with a sunbeam, that no individual of the human race can persevere in what is called the moderate

use of these baneful beverages, and yet live out all his days. We grant that what would kill one person in ten years, may take sixty to kill another; we allow that the smaller the quantity taken, the longer may be the seeming impunity; but still, in every case, the result will eventually be the same. As long as human life depends upon vital functions, as long as digestive organs, lungs, blood vessels, muscles, nerves, and nervous matter, constitute so large and so essential a portion of the body of man, so long must it be dangerous for any of the sons or daughters of Adam to continue the daily use of an intoxicating beverage. To resist the ravages of such a subtle fiend, we must have frames impervious to injury, and therefore composed of more durable materials than iron or adamant.

The benevolence that made us sentient beings, that gave to the nerves and brain the most exquisite sensibility and sympathy, and for the daily renovation of our strength, ordained the mysterious process of circulation, respiration, and nutrition, of necessity exposed us to injury, disease, and death. To be liable to these ills is the tax we have to pay for our corporeal vitality, and the fine sensibility, which enables us to sympathize with all we see, or hear, or taste, or smell, or feel. Destroy human susceptibility, render the body invulnerable to injury, make it proof against the ravages of alcohol or any other deadly poison, and the supposed favor you confer, is death and not life. The very blessing is a curse; for that which renders me impervious to evil, at the same time makes me insensible to all that is pleasurable or thrilling to the senses; and therefore, in shielding me from the ills of life, most effectually excludes me from all its joys, by changing me into a stone.

Here, perhaps, we might close all we have to say; for if alcohol, whether taken moderately or immoderately, is a poison, if premature death must be the consequence of even the moderate use, then what an awful fact presents itself before us! We have millions of our fellow-creatures shortening their days, and rushing uncalled for, and before their work is done, into the presence of their Judge. Life, the longest life is short, alas! too short to accomplish all that devolves upon us as rational and responsible beings; then what language can duly express the folly and wickedness of those who unnecessarily abridge their days? Among those who are guilty of this crime, we have some of the most distinguished patriots and philanthropists of the day. We have seen citizens whose removal was wept by all; we have seen ministers of religion whose zeal and devotion were seraphic, drop into their grave long before their time; and the cause of their death was the moderate use of alcohol. They were not drunkards; their characters never stood charged with the crime of intoxication; they always drank in moderation, and yet their very moderation was their death, because they drank a poison. One of the medical men examined before the parliamentary committee on drunkenness, stated that forty years ago, he had been struck with the fact, that the bodies of many moderate drinkers, moral and religious men, which he had examined after death, contained incontestable proofs that they died from the use of intoxicating drinks. He adds, that not a few of them fell victims to these liquors before they were forty.

Premature death is not the only evil. It is often boasted that if alcohol be a poison, it is a slow one. We grant it; but with the admission, we assert that the slowness of the poison is one of its greatest curses. We knew a family cured of drinking porter, in consequence of one of its members being suddenly brought to death's door by its use. Were men to die as rapidly of alcohol as of prussic acid, our Convention might at once close its sitting, for the whole world would stand ready to take the pledge. Solomon says, 'Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men are fully set in them to do evil.' God's mercy has always been abused, and his long suffering towards the drinkers of alcohol, furnishes no exception. Because the poisonous cup does not produce instant death, men persevere in the braught until enough has been taken to exhaust the energies of nature, and consign them to the tomb.

But this is not all; the path to the moderate drinker's grave is not strewn with roses; for however exhilarating and oblivious the draught may be, yet no sooner has its strength evaporated from his frame, than his spirits sink, and all his woes return with redoubled malignity. There is, perhaps, hardly a pain which alcohol, by inspiring the mind, may not momentarily relieve; but then the very cup which seems to gladden the heart feeds the disease, and often renders it altogether incurable. We cannot stay now to enumerate all the diseases which spring from moderate drinking; suffice it to say, that indigestion and all the pains proceeding from that prolific source; liver and bilious complaints; fevers and inflammations in all their forms; rheumatism, gout and ulcers; nervousness, with its thousand horrors of real or imagined woe; dropsy, palsy, paralysis and apoplexy, are among the evils that moderate drinkers groan under, and from which they die. Almost every person who drinks these liquors tells us that he is ill; and that he takes them as medicine. The world is rapidly becoming one vast hospital, and almost every man and woman we meet is an invalid; and what is more strange than all, the poison that has thus prostrated us, is taken every day, and in many instances, several times a day, to remove the diseases which it at first produced, and the dose is increased and the practice continued for years, after the unhappy patient has had abundant proofs, that instead of being bettered by its regimen, he is constantly getting worse.

Our lives are not our own, and no one has a right to sacrifice his health to his appetite or his folly; and yet we see thousands inoculating themselves with disease and premature death by the use of this pernicious beverage.

We have seen the christian, and the doctor whose praise was in all the churches, become a paralytic, his features distorted, his senses to a great degree sealed, and his strong, masculine mind, reduced to second childhood, through the use of stimulants, and, as a consequence, drop into his grave years before his time; and yet the man was never drunk in his life. His wife wept over a fond husband, his children over the best of fathers, the church over one of her choicest members, and a large circle of acquaintances over one of the most hospitable of friends.

We have seen the son, whose bodily symmetry and countenance might have been a study for the painter or the statuary, smitten by what is called the moderate use of alcohol, and die long before his thirtieth year of a brain fever. We have seen his sister, the very image of innocence and beauty, become sallow, bloated, dropsical, and a spectacle offensive to herself and her dearest friends; and, as if ashamed to be seen, shrink away from life, that she might hide her deformity in the grave. Her sun, which might have shone gloriously till the evening of life, went down long before noon, clouded, eclipsed, and lost in the fumes of alcohol; and yet she was a moderate drinker.

We have seen the father of these unfortunate offspring, the man who taught them to drink, who loved them dearly, whose heart bled profusely at their death—we have seen him—indeed, those who saw him, and knew him, will never forget his comely stature, his healthful appearance, his manly bearing, his powerful mind, his exalted piety, his eloquence as a preacher—we have seen this man, whose words fed many, for thousands had hung on his lips, become helpless as an infant, the prey of nervous affections, and, long before death, a burden to himself and others—we have seen him, years before his glass should have dropped its last sand, sink into the grave from moderate drinking. Here, nearly a whole family was wrecked, youth, beauty, talent, piety, usefulness, were all sacrificed at the shrine of intoxicating drinks, and yet none of them were drunkards—all were the friends and advocates of moderation. Into these facts we have introduced nothing imaginary; alas! the reality was far darker than the picture; and, did we choose, we could prolong the tale, and show, that if drunkenness kills its thousands, moderation kills, in the most horrible manner, its tens of thousands.

The mental and moral evils are still more appalling. The insidious poison is so subtle and energetic that it can penetrate to the soul. The brain, that rendezvous of all that constitutes the greatness and glory of humanity—that town of 'Mansoul,' as Bunyan would call it—that sanctum sanctorum of intellect, of reason, of affection, of benevolence, and devotion—is the temple which this material fiend especially seeks to pollute. Hither it flies with the rapidity of lightning, and, alas! with as deadly an aim. How many thousands of minds have been scathed, not it is true, with the electric fluid, but with the withering blasts of alcohol. Our madhouses present us with multitudes of the victims of strong drink, and yet the majority of them were only moderate drinkers. Were all stimulants abandoned, we have reason to believe that lunatic asylums might soon be closed.

But madness or lunacy, arising from moderate drinking, shows us only a small portion of the injury done to the mind and the brain by these fatal liquors. Not a few tradesmen are driven from their counters, not a few scholars from their books, not a few pastors from their flocks, because their brain has become too feeble to bear the soft, sweet, the gentle, the soothing exercise of thinking. We have reason to believe that the contact of matter and mind, effected through the union of the soul and the nervous system, is the most exquisite of all the works of the Almighty. The wise man compares our nerves to 'a silver cord,' and the asylum of this organ of mind and sensibility to 'a golden bowl.' Through its medium, the divine Spirit holds intercourse with earth and with the skies. It is by means of thinking that we become acquainted with earth and with heaven; but without the brain, in the present incarcerated state of the soul, we could not think. Take away this 'silver cord,' and the spirit has fled. In the sensorium, mind operates on matter, and matter on mind, with all the delicate softness of a seraph's touch. Here sympathy and sensibility are complete. Whatever agitates the soul spreads consternation through the body, and whatever affects the nerves thrills through the whole soul. These divinely sensitive companions heave sigh for sigh, and shed tear for tear, and constantly rejoice or weep together. A